



# Water Conservation Program Update 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr FY2015

## Resource Management Commission

May 19, 2015

Mark Jordan

Water Conservation Program Coordinator

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Highlights

- Home water use report pilot (Dropcountr) launched
- Public comment on New Stage 3 and 4 drought restrictions
- Worked with HBA to develop water conservation landscaping design criteria
- Commercial development near reclaimed water mains must connect for non-potable uses



# Incentive Program Activity

Program	Activity Level
Aerators/showerheads	Higher than projected
Rainwater Harvesting	Higher than Projected
Commercial Process	On-track
Irrigation Rebates	On-track
Irrigation Audits	Seasonal ramp-up beginning
Drought Survival Tools	Seasonal ramp-up beginning
WaterWise Landscape	Seasonal ramp-up beginning
Commercial audit	Lower than projected





# In Progress

- Mandatory A/C condensate recovery and cooling tower efficiency standards
- Commercial Irrigation System Improvement Rebate
- WaterWise Rainscape Rebate



# FY15 Conservation Outreach

(estimated persons reached)



- Events/Booths: 2,095
- Public Presentations: 2,473
- School Presentations: 14,883 students
- Regional Networking
  - CTWEN, TAWWA, Region K, LCRA Firm Customers, LCRA Partnership Agreement, WCAC



# Mobile classroom

- Fish and wildlife
- Water quality, conservation and planning
- Weather and climate
- Environmental stewardship



# Reclaimed Water Use



- **FY15 Thru April: 195.65 MG (72 customers)**
- **FY14: 1.09 BG (63 customers)**
- **FY13: 1.47 BG (59 customers)**
- **FY12: 1.52 BG (43 customers)**
- **FY11: 1.45 BG (40 customers)**
- **FY10: 1.09 BG (36 customers)**

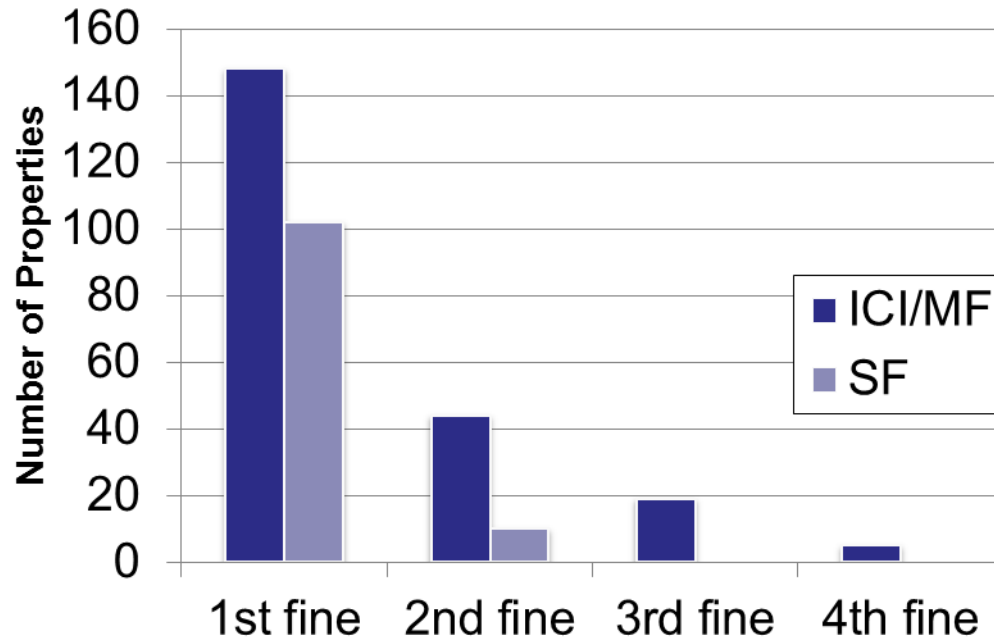
# FY15 Reclaimed Projects

- **Capitol Complex**
  - Capitol grounds
  - Governor's mansion
- **AISSD**
  - Performing Arts Center
  - Eastside Memorial High School
- **Seaholm**
- **Calellus Acq. (Mueller)**





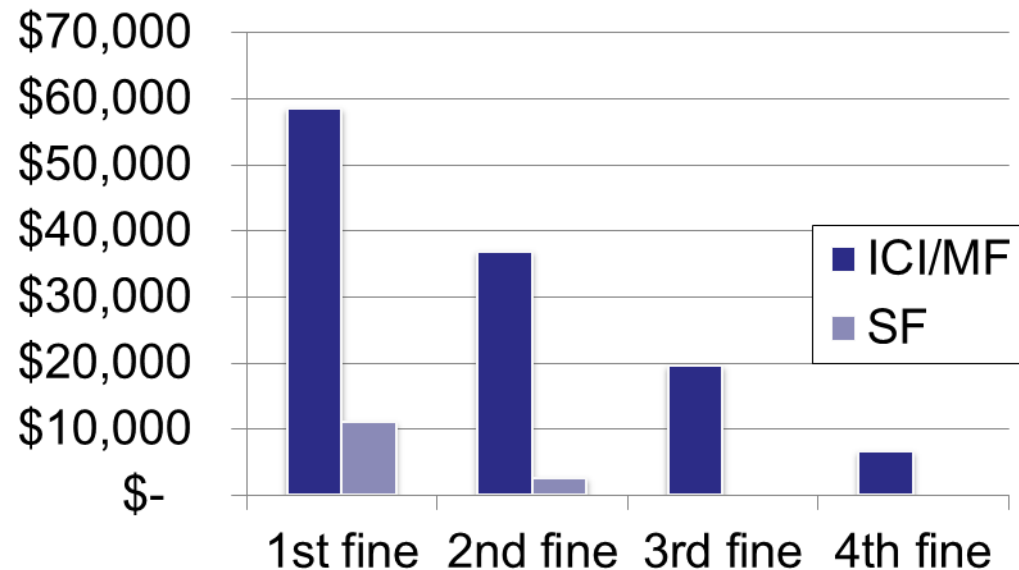
## Assessed Violations: 1/1/14 – 4/1/15



- 2036 warnings
- 328 properties fined
- 89 appeals filed
- 0 appeals overturned

- Violations assessed only after a warning is issued
- Citizen reports generate a postcard alert
- Fines on water bills

## Fines Collected



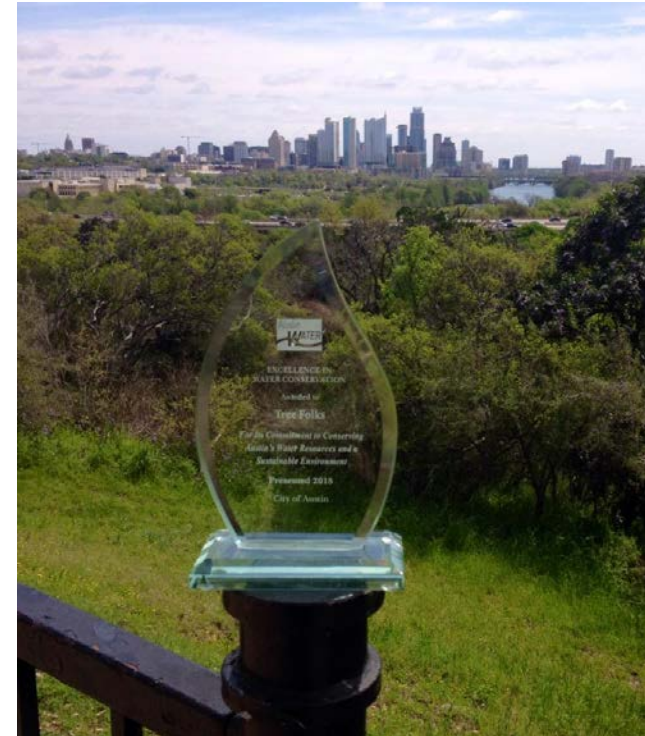
# IWRPC Task Force

- 1<sup>st</sup> meeting May 5
- IWRP scope being developed
- Conservation Program Assessment RFP issued
- Next meeting June 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month)



# Awards

- Water Conservation Advisory Council
- Texas Section AWWA
- Austin Water's Excellence in Water Conservation
  - AISD
  - TreeFolks
  - Hops & Grain
  - Foundation Communities





# Drought Update

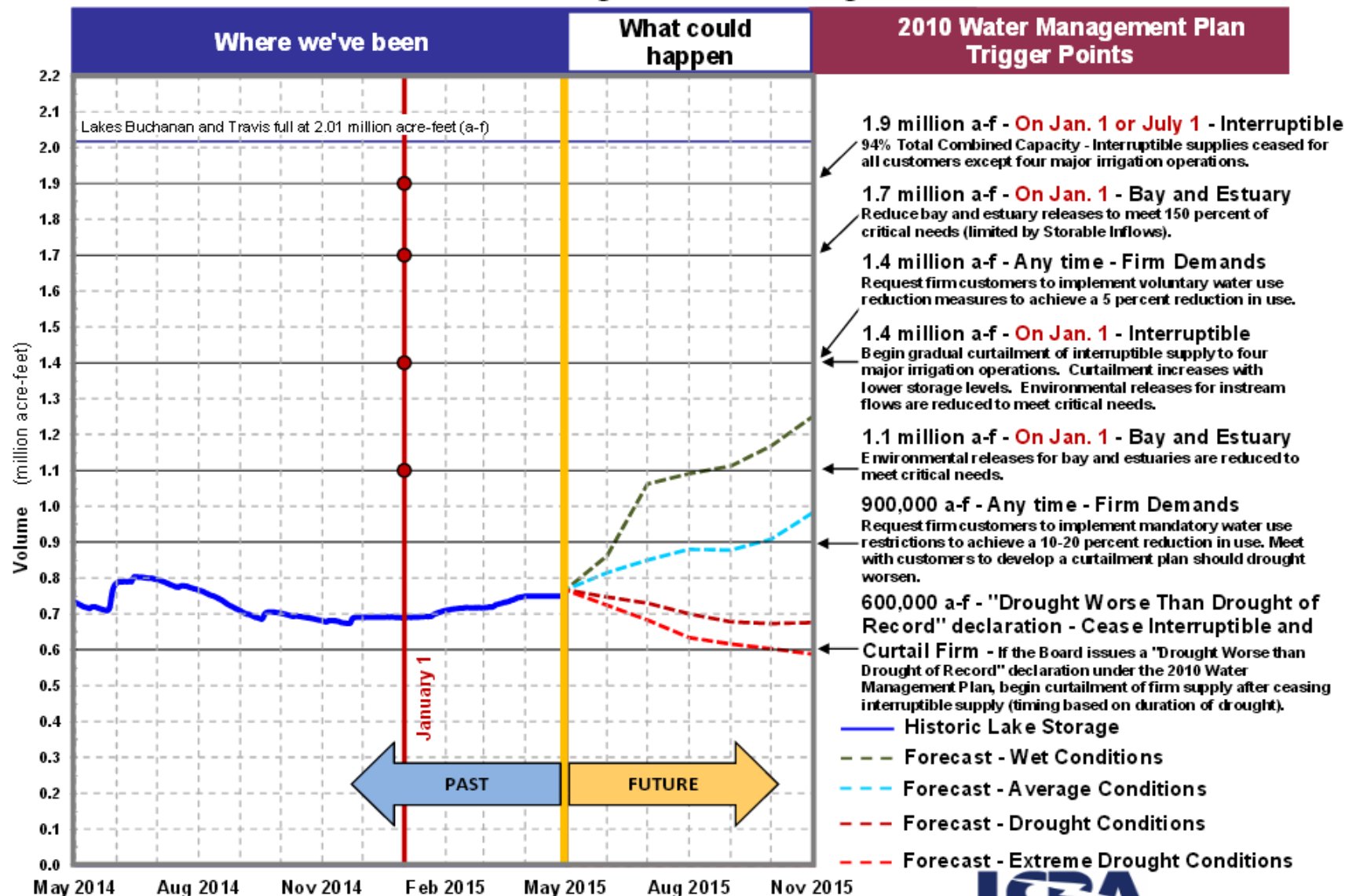


# Lake levels

- Combined storage has risen about 80,000 AF since January to over 780,000 AF or 39% of capacity
- April 2015 inflows were 22,726 AF, about 22% of the April average, and 19th lowest for that month
- Less than 1% chance of reaching 600,000 AF by July-August 2015, and less than 4% chance of falling to 600,000 AF by end of 2015.



# Highland Lakes Storage \*



Note: One acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons.

Date: May 1, 2015

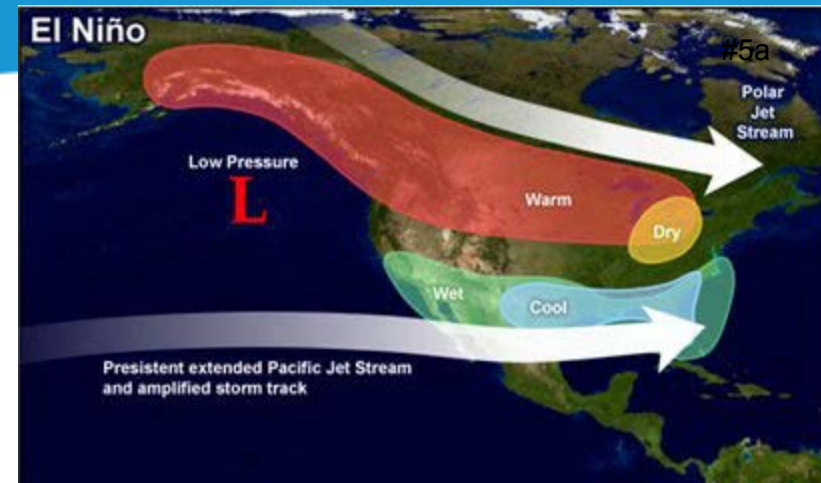
\* Projections assume Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will approve emergency orders in 2015 that are similar to the emergency orders approved by TCEQ in 2014, which suspended releases of interruptible stored water for customers in the Gulf Coast, Lakeside and Pierce Ranch agricultural divisions through the 2014 irrigation season and reduced instream flow requirements during the 2014 blue sucker spawning season.





# Weather outlook

- El Niño has arrived!
  - Warming of tropical Pacific Ocean generally results in above normal rainfall for Central Texas
- El Niño forecast to persist thru summer and strengthen to moderate level by early fall
- El Niño historically has helped end droughts and created big storm events





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